

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MOGADI 01249 241100Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----057537 241118Z /10

R 241010Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5082
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SANA

S E C R E T MOGADISCIO 1249

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, US, SO
SUBJ: AMBASSADOR ADDOU TELLS SIAD OF FAVORABLE US RESPONSE

REF: STATE 167604

SUMMARY: ON JULY 22 AMBASSADOR ADDOU INFORMED PRESIDENT
SIAD OF OUR FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO SOMALI ARMS REQUEST.
SIAD'S REACTION WAS GUARDED AND HE EXPRESSED CONCERN AT
PACE OF ARMS DELIVERIES. SOMALI GOVT NOW CONSIDERING
NEXT STEP -- WHETHER TO SEND SOMALI MIL TEAM TO WASHINGTON
OR INVITE US TEAM TO MOGADISCIO. ACCORDING TO ADDOU, SIAD
IS NOW QTE SIXTY TO SEVENTY PERCENT PERSUADED UNQTE THAT
HE HAS SOLUTION TO HIS SOVIET DEPENDENCY AND A
REPLACEMENT FOR SOVIET MILITARY ASSISTANCE. ADDOU

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CAUTIONS, HOWEVER, THAT SIAD WILL ONLY MOVE AWAY FROM
MOSCOW WHEN PROOF OF US COMMITMENT TO MEET SOMALIA'S
DEFENSIVE NEEDS IS IN HAND. IN MY VIEW THIS CLEARLY
MEANS THAT WE SHOULD NOT EXPECT THE CLEAN OR IMMEDIATE
BREAK WITH THE SOVIET UNION WHICH MANY JOURNALISTS ARE
NOW ERRONEOUSLY ASSUMING.

1. I MET WITH AMBASSADOR ADDOU AT HIS REQUEST JULY 23. ADDOU RETURNED TO MOGADISCIO FROM WASHINGTON JULY 20. PRESIDENT SIAD WAS OUT OF CITY AND THEY FINALLY MET ON EVENING OF JULY 22, WHEN ADDOU PAID COURTESY CALL AT PRESIDENTIAL COMPOUND. (FYI: SIAD HAD BEEN AT WHEEL OF AUTO WHICH WENT OUT OF CONTROL DURING VISIT TO BORDER AREA, HAAD SUFFERED FEW BRUISES, AND WAS CONVALESCING. END FYI) AFTER COURTESY CALL, ADDOU RETURNED TO HIS VILLA. SHORT TIME LATER, SIAD ARRIVED UNEXPECTEDLY AND ASKED HIM FOR DETAILS ON HIS WASHINGTON TALKS. SIAD WAS ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY GENERAL SAMANTAR.

2. ALTHOUGH ADDOU HAD INFORMED SIAD BY CABLE OF HIS SUCCESSFUL VISIT ON JULY 15 WITH HABIB (REFTEL, HE HAD BEEN DELIBERATELY VAGUE IN HIS REPORT AND HAD NOT SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIED SOMALI ARMS REQUEST. LATTER IS BEING CLOSELY HELD WITHIN SIAD GOVERNMENT AND ACCORDING TO ADDOU ONLY FEW INDIVIDUALS ARE PRIVY TO SIAD INITIATIVE AND US RESPONSE.

3. ADDOU REVIEWED FOR SIAD RESULTS OF HIS TALKS WITH HABIB AND US AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO HELP MEET SOMALI DEFENSIVE NEEDS. SIAD WAS PERPLEXED AT US DELAY IN ITS RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC ITEMS ON SOMALI MIL EQUIPMENT LIST. ADDOU EXPLAINED THAT
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WASHINGTON NEEDED BENEFIT OF MILITARY EXPERTISE TO GO OVER LIST ON ITEM-BY-ITEM BASIS. HE ASSURED SIAD THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S FAVORABLE RESPONSE MEANT THAT HE COULD BE CERTAIN THAT US MILITARY HELP WOULD FOLLOW IN TIME. GENERAL SAMANTAR ALSO EXPRESSED SOME IMPATIENCE AT US BUREAUCRATIC DELAY IN MEETING IMMEDIATE MILITARY NEEDS.

4. APPARENTLY UK HAS REQUESTED THAT SOMALI GOVT SEND MILITARY TEAM TO LONDON TO DISCUSS SOMALI ARMS REQUESTS. ADDOU AND SIAD THEN DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF EITHER DISPATCHING SOMALI MILITARY TEAM TO WASHINGTON FOLLOWING ITS LONDON VISIT OR ASKING US MILITARY TEAM TO VISIT SOMALIA. NI DECISION MADE, HOWEVER, AND ADDOU EXPECTS SIAD TO DECIDE THIS QUESTION WITHIN NEXT WEEK.

5. ACCORDING ADDOU, SIAD THEN DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM HE FACES IN DECIDING HIS FUTURE RELATIONSHIP WITH MOSCOW. ADDOU BELIEVES THAT AS RESULT OF US COMMITMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO HELP SUPPLY SOMALIA'S DEFENSIVE NEEDS, SIAD IS NOW QTE SIXTY TO SEVENTY

PERCENT PERSUADED UNQTE TO FULLY EXTRICATE HIMSELF FROM HIS DEPENDENCY ON SOVIET UNION. SIAD CANNOT SEVER THAT RELATIONSHIP WITH USSR HOWEVER UNTIL HE ABSOLUTELY CONVINCED THAT US, WESTERN NATIONS AND ARAB FRIENDS WILL ASSURE SOMALIA'S DEFENSIVE NEEDS.

6. ON QUESTION OF US ROLE, ADDOU SAID THAT SIAD NOW WISHED US TO TAKE LEAD IN WESTERN AND ARAB CONSORTIUM TO SUPPLY SOMALIA WITH MIL EQUIPMENT. WHILE FRENCH COULD WORK WITH SAUDIS, BRITISH AND OTHERS COULD JOIN IN, ETC., SIAD WANTED PRINCIPAL AXIS TO BE WASHINGTON-MOGADISCIMXM ADDOU SAID SIAD WAS QUITE CLEAR ON THIS POINT.

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7. ADDOU ALSO REVIEWED FOR SIAD DISCUSSIONS HE HAD ON AID PROJECTS (STATE 170469). HE EXPLAINED WHY PL 480 WOULD SERVE AS ALTERNATIVE TO BUDGETARY SUPPORT, WHICH FOR US WAS OUT OF QUESTION. SIAD AGREED ON VALUE OF PL 480.

8. MY COMMENTS FOLLOW SEPTTEL.
LOUGHRAN

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NNN

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